



May 31, 2024

Tony Abate

Retired

Q: When were you at Shumaker and what was your position/practice area?

A: I joined Shumaker when the firm opened the Sarasota office in 2009. I was a member of the Litigation and Disputes Service Line with an emphasis on Construction Law. I have been certified in this field since it became available in Florida.

Q: What is your current position and company?

A: Presently, I have joined the ranks of the retired. Generally, I am juggling multiple hobbies.

Q: What did you enjoy most about your career?

A: I enjoyed the challenge of handling complicated matters. Many of my cases involved numerous parties, witnesses, experts, and legal theories. All of these presented new and different demands.

Q: What is one thing you learned at Shumaker that has benefitted you ever since?

A: It is important to recognize the diversity of people in their abilities, talents, personality, and philosophies. For every potential client, there is a person or people who will relate to them.

Q: What is your favorite memory of your time working at Shumaker?

A: The parts of the retreats that I can remember.

Q: What is the best advice you can give a new attorney?

A: Approach each day as an opportunity to learn more about your craft. A successful day is one where you leave and have learned something. Parallel to this is the idea that good clients gravitate to good attorneys. The better you become at the practice of law, the better you will do with clients. Marketing is important, but few clients are looking for a mediocre attorney just because the attorney is willing to buy them beers.

Q: What news would you like to share about your personal or professional life?

A: I am working on some specialty pasta dishes.